

Prices and Prospects.

Restoration of Wage Scale Halts Activity in Market; No Early Trading Expected

Neither Buyers Nor Sellers
Are Ready or Willing to
Negotiate.

ACTION CAME EARLIER

There Had Been Anticipation; Was
Looked For Toward End of First
Quarter, Instead of at This Time;
Advance Will Add \$1.00 to Cost.

Special to The Weekly Courier.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 17.—Since last Monday, when the wage advance effective, the following day was decided upon, there has been no market in Connellsville coke. Neither buyers nor sellers have been ready or willing to negotiate. Quotation of the coke market, on the basis invariably followed in The Courier reports, of the latest authoritative transactions, is for once impossible. Transactions since last report were on the old basis and have no value except as a basis for appraising coke values by adding to those prices an allowance for the wage advance.

There may not be any trading of importance for several days. Contracting for first quarter had been practically completed with a little dilatory inquiry remaining, while as to spot coke there was scarcely any to be offered and there was a very light demand from furnaces, while the buying by miscellaneous users never amounts to much in point of tonnage. Thus the trade is well able to stand a full of a few days while sellers and buyers get their bearings again.

A week ago spot furnace coke was quoted on the basis of actual transactions, at \$3.50 to \$3.55, while spot foundry coke stood at its old range of \$4.00 to \$4.50. It was in line for an advance, in sympathy with the advance in furnace coke, but the demand was so light that the advance had not yet worked out. First quarter furnace coke contracts had been made at the successive prices of \$3.25, \$3.50, \$3.75 and \$4.00. The total turnover in the movement had been about 225,000 tons monthly over the first quarter, something like half of that having been at \$3.25 while the last business closed, about one-eighth of the total, was at \$4.00. The contracts contained the wage clause, so that actual invoice prices will be higher by the cost of the wage advance. The few existing contracts also contain the wage clause.

While there is no actual market to quote an appraisal of values may be made and the figures below represent the minimum that can be computed including an allowance for the fact that, at the outset, buyers will be found quite reluctant to pay the full advance that the circumstances warrant.

Spot furnace . . . \$4.25 to \$4.50
Contract furnace . . . \$4.50 to \$4.75
Spot foundry . . . \$4.50 to \$4.75
Until two or three weeks ago coke operators were disposed to express the opinion that the advance in wages to the scale maintained uninterrupted by the Frick company since August 23, 1922 would hardly occur before the latter part of the first quarter. Naturally furnacesmen will not relish the advance occurring even before the beginning of the quarter but operators are confident that furnacesmen will be quick to recognize that it was essential for the maintenance of coke production that the advance be made when it was the experience of one independent interest which recently posted notices making the advance effective January 1 is informative, as that announcement reduced the working force instead of increasing it.

Initial trade estimates of the amount that will be added to contract prices by reason of the wage advance vary from 75 cents to a dollar and even more. The computation will be made for each plant, to control the contract coke shipped from that plant, and thus will necessarily be some variations.

The wage reduction of last May and June was referred to in the trade as being a return to the scale of November 10, 1917 or a reduction of one-third. If that had been strictly the case the present advance would be an advance of one-half or 50 per cent. When coke sold at \$3.00 last summer operators claimed there was a loss of about 50 cents a ton and that little more than the payroll was being gotten from the selling price. Had it been true that the wages were one-third under the Frick scale and the wage cost was \$2.50 the advance would mean \$1.25. The fact is, however, that some jobs were not reduced altogether by one-third, which accounts for some of the estimates of the increase running below one dollar.

The volume of coke production in the next few weeks is much in doubt depending largely on the attitude of labor with respect to holiday celebrations. In the old days there used to be much interruption and it was not

COKE FREIGHT RATES.

The freight rates on coke from the Connellsville district, which includes what is commonly known as the Connellsville region (sometimes called the basin district) and the Lower Connellsville district (often called the Kiamika and sometimes the Monaca district) to principal points for shipment, are as follows, per ton of 2,600 pounds effective July 1, 1923.

Destination	Rate
Baltimore	\$2.21
Buffalo	1.24
Canton	1.24
Chicago	1.24
Cleveland	1.24
Columbus	1.24
Delaware	1.24
St. Louis	1.24
Waco	1.24
Harrisburg	1.24
Joliet	1.24
Louisville	1.24
Milwaukee	1.24
New York	1.24
Philadelphia	1.24
Pittsburgh	1.24
Port Henry, N. Y.	1.24
Richmond, Va.	1.24
Pottstown	1.24
Reading	1.24
Richmond, Va. (R. & O.)	1.24
Richmond, Va. (P. & R.)	1.24
South Bethlehem	1.24
Waco, O.	1.24
Wheeling	1.24
Valley Pointe	1.24

From Connellsville district

Philadelphia (F. O. B. vessel) \$2.02

Baltimore (F. O. B. vessel) 1.91

From Latrobe district

Philadelphia (F. O. B. vessel) 2.82

Baltimore (F. O. B. vessel) 2.82

From Latrobe district

Philadelphia (F. O. B. vessel) 2.82

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Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade

Statistical Summary.

PRODUCTION		WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12, 1924				WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 6, 1924			
DISTRICT	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	
Connellsville	18,207	6,007	12,200	70,711	18,207	4,608	18,601	75,070	
Lower Connellsville	16,948	4,984	11,109	70,560	16,948	4,748	11,570	63,581	
Totals	35,155	10,991	23,309	141,270	35,155	9,356	25,171	119,551	

FURNACE OVENS		WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12, 1924				WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 6, 1924			
DISTRICT	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	
Connellsville	14,386	4,883	10,098	58,006	14,386	3,602	11,494	44,336	
Lower Connellsville	5,872	400	5,472	6,006	5,872	400	5,472	6,006	
Totals	20,258	5,283	15,570	64,012	20,258	4,002	16,966	50,342	

MERCHAND OVENS		WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12, 1924				WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 6, 1924			
DISTRICT	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	
Connellsville	3,371	1,109	2,102	12,711	3,371	1,104	2,167	11,822	
Lower Connellsville	16,171	4,584	5,687	84,550	16,171	4,318	6,998	27,580	
Totals	19,542	5,693	7,789	97,261	19,542	5,422	9,165	39,402	

A Single Wage Rate Scale To Be Restored in the Coke Region by January 1, 1925

By Action of Independent Producers Making the Frick Scale Standard.

INITIATIVE BY RAINEY

Announces Intention to Pay Scale of September 1, 1920 Beginning Jan. 1; Hillman Interests Make Effective Date Dec. 15; Not Expected.

On and after January 1 there will be practically complete restoration of a single scale of wages at the coke works of the Connellsville Region. This will be the result of announcements made on Monday and Tuesday of the intention of the independent producers to resume the payment of the rate of wages provided by the Frick scale of September 1, 1920.

This scale is virtually the same as the scale of August 27, 1922 by which the war-time rates were restored and which have remained in effect at the Frick plants without change. The rates of pay are the highest in the history of the coke manufacturing industry.

During the last year the independent producers found it necessary, as a condition of operation to make reductions in the rates of wages. A number made reductions of a certain percentage others went back to the Frick scale of November 10, 1917, still others made various revisions in rates.

The scale of August 27, 1922 which has been the standard at the plants of the Frick Coke Company since that date, is identical with the scale of September 1, 1920 with the exception of the rates for dumpers and upplemen chargers and outside labor generally. The 1920 scale rates for these classes of labor was \$5.40. The 1922 rate was \$6.00.

WAGE SCALE RESTORATION.

Every advance in wages of the workers in the coke region is always hailed with satisfaction on part of the employer and the business interests which in large part depend upon the prosperity of the region for the measure of their own success. Among the coke operators themselves there is sometimes a somewhat different feeling arising from the conditions prevailing in the trade.

The history of the region has at all times given proof of the willingness of the operators to go the limit in the matter of maintaining wages at the highest level of any coke region in the world. In following this policy they have never voluntarily gone to "whenever" the state of the trade warranted such action being taken. When it became absolutely necessary to reduce wages in order that it might be possible to resume or to continue operation of their plants a restoration of the former scales has been made as promptly as hereafter as possible.

During the year now nearing its close trade conditions have been more unsatisfactory than for several years demand for coke having fallen off sharply and to the lowest point since 1921 and the price range being below that of the year named. Under the circumstances the merchant operators which have to depend upon the general market for their orders—in stead of having steady buyers within their own official families like the H. C. Frick Coke Company—have found business hard to get even at prices which represent little or no profit when all the factors entering into the cost of production were taken into account. In many instances it was not possible to make coke without incurring a heavy loss on every ton produced without that parting down the wage scale. This has always been done with the tacit agreement and understanding that as soon as the price of coke advanced sufficiently proportionate increases would be made in wages.

The revival of the coke trade which Continued on Page Two

Superior Co. Sells Tract For \$77,000

Negotiations have just been completed for the sale of 45 acres of coal land in Luzerne township by the Superior Connellsville Coal & Coke Company to James West S. for a consideration of \$77,000. With the sale of the land goes all mining rights. It is a Pittsburgh nine foot coal seam and is considered a good buy. George Whyte is president of the Superior and transacted the deal with Mr. West.

Recently the company disposed of nearly 200 acres for \$370,000. The grantee this time was Columbus R. Porter of Brownsville.

GOMPERS' PASSING A CRITICAL POINT IN LABOR HISTORY

Successor May Lack His Skill
In Maintaining Cohesion
of the A. F. of L.

FORCEFUL PERSONALITY

And Political Cunning Enabled Dead
Leader to Restrict His Lieutenants
And Hold Radicals Within Limits—
Can Another Accomplish as Much?

By DAVID LAWRENCE
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WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Will the policies of Samuel Gompers live after him?

American labor's answer to "that question does not depend so much on who is chosen as president of the American Federation of Labor, but upon the circumstances both political and economic which in the last four years weighed so heavily on the veteran leader.

Few people know of the inside politics of the American Federation of Labor its clash of opinion between moderates and extremists and few people know that it was by sheer force of personality that Samuel Gompers restrained his own lieutenants. Ever since the war the Gompers policy has been one of prevention and when the Federation endorsed Pollette it was Gompers who thought that very act would find its own remedy. For he was against the organization of a labor party in politics though he was being constantly pressed from within to join with the railroad brotherhoods in an effort to wield the maximum political influence.

In recent years Mr. Gompers found the brotherhoods a powerful ally but a somewhat vexatious one because the policies of the two groups frequently were opposite. Samuel Gompers felt more the need of presenting a united front for labor than to reconcile even fundamental differences between the brotherhoods and the American Federation of Labor.

The problem that now comes up may affect the entire labor situation for years to come. Will this cohesive power be held together, or will the labor groups be divided and even work against each other? Capital would profit by such a situation even as labor would lose. The currents of discussion are strong and only a Gompers can keep labor united. Even a Gompers however has to have a favorable atmosphere.

The last year saw the Gompers policy of harmony tried to the utmost for the sake of harmony inside the Federation. He permitted the American Federation of Labor to endorse the La Follette candidacy. He had the cunning of a practical politician and even those who bitterly criticized his occasional wanderings and even reversals knew that with Gompers the end justified the means and that he usually was vindicated.

For many years as Gompers has been advancing toward the end of his career the leaders of the labor movement have been discussing what would happen when he left. It has not been unlike the discussion of 20 years ago as to what would happen to the loosely constructed Austro-Hungarian monarchy when Franz Joseph died. Predictions have been made that the American Federation of Labor would split up into two groups—the conservatives and radicals.

There is no doubt that within the Federation there is already such a sharp division but it was the Gompers policy to yield a point here and there to the radicals and thus keep labor a power unimpaired. Will his successor be able to do it even if he follows the same policy?

The test may not come at once for just now there is no extraordinary period of prosperity or inflation. Unemployment is not altogether removed as a factor and immigration restriction is not yet accomplishing all that labor set out to achieve. The real troubles usually occur in a time of inflation and shortage of labor when higher and "higher" wages are demanded.

Politically Samuel Gompers leaned Continued on Page Three.

Production and Output.

Noteworthy As Was Gain In Production Higher Scale A More Important Matter.

Feeling of the Region Is That
Action Was Taken Before
Market Was Ready.

BIGGEST OUTPUT GAIN

Since Upward Movement Began; Total
141,260, Increase of 21,710 Tons;
1,571 Ovens Fired Up; Disposition
To Watch Effects of Wage Advance

The enlargement of coke production continued last week and at a higher rate than in any single six day period since the upward trend began. Through an increase of 21,710 tons the regional output was advanced to 141,260 tons which is a rise greater than was recorded on May 1 after the falling off had been in progress for six weeks. Ponderance is now less than 42,000 tons below the rate during the corresponding week in 1923. If last week's gain is duplicated each week until December 31 the present year will have just about caught up with last and be ready to enter January on an even footing.

As in the preceding week the increase in production last week were the result of large additions to the active oven list and were in about the same proportion as the two produce 1925 increase increased their quotas. The H. C. Frick Coke Company fired up 1,336 ovens including five long die plants and augmented output by 15,500 tons a gain of 4,600 tons in the weekly rate of increase. The merchant additions which included but one plant restored to activity were 235 ovens. Production was advanced from 8,070 to 9,500 tons as compared with the rate at which output of this interest is being enlarged.

While the growth in production has been a noteworthy development of the past 10 days it is of less present importance as news rates in the region than the restoration of the September 1, 1920 wage scale which with but a few exceptions for outside labor is identical with the August 23, 1922 scale which has been paid at plants of the Frick company since that date.

There was a feeling prevalent in the region that an advance in wages by the operators who had resorted to the scale of November 1, 1917 or

The estimated production of coke during the week ended Saturday, December 12 was 141,260 tons divided between the two districts as follows: Connellsville 70,710 an increase of 14,740 tons. Lower Connellsville, 70,550 an increase of 6,970 tons, or a total increase of 21,710 tons as compared with a total increase of 15,710 tons during the preceding week.

By merchant production was 2,840 tons. Total production was 144,100 tons, a gain of 13,650 tons, merchant 77,260 a gain of 8,050 tons as compared with increases of 8,000 and 6,970 tons respectively during the week ended December 6.

Of the 1,571 ovens added to the active list 1,336 were at Frick plants and 235 at merchant operations. The former were all at Frick plants and its detail were as follows:

Calumet 101 Crossland, 110; Hecla No. 1 200 Hottelster 43; Leisener No. 2 100 Lemont No. 2; 300 Margaret 300 Gilphart 102; Standard 60, Wynn 170, Calumet, Crossland, Hecla No. 1, Margaret and Wynn were newly fired.

The merchant additions were: Other No. 1 five Other No. 2 60; American No. 2 75 Centur 25; Crystal four Lincoln 20, Mount Hope 24 Poland seven Shamrock, 15 American No. 2 has been inactive since early in the year.

Production by the merchant and furnace interests and the total compared with the corresponding week in 1923 is shown herewith:

advance in sheet prices in progress for several weeks is now in force as the going market.

Since buyers and sellers have in mind the fact that in both 1923 and 1924 steel production and shipments reached a high point in March or April, and declined afterwards, it is too rapid one to the latter case there is reason to infer that the heavy demand now is not calculated to bring a repetition of those performances. At the same time it is being asked how the industrial activities of the country can support a sustained production of steel in 1925 at a great deal above the average of the past two years. The average rate of ingot production in these two years is barely 40,000,000 tons a year, whereas a rate of 74 per cent of present capacity while mill operations are already estimated to be close to 80 per cent with predictions that January will show a higher rate development.

A remarkably sudden decline of importance in the wage advance made by the independent iron and steel mills of the Lake region effective Tuesday of this week to the scale the Frick company has maintained since it was established August 23 1922 adding 75 cents to a dollar to the cost of coke. The advance was fully expected but no so soon and was announced suddenly under pressure of a strike. Fig. 10 is likely to have further advance and steel mills are given a further stimulus to seek better prices.

Iron plate contracting has been very lively in the past fortnight supporting predictions that 1925 will be a big year in that commodity.

Children's First Aid Meet At Lemont an Innovation in Frick Company's Activities

Boys and Girls of Seven to 14
Put Through Tests in Car-
ling for Injured.

PART OF EDUCATION WORK

One of the first of its kind to be conducted, a first aid meet for school children—sons and daughters of employees of the H. C. Frick Coke Company at Lemont—was held in the school house there Saturday with considerable success. The program was arranged as part of the general educational scheme of the company, originated by Clyde L. Lutton, safety engineer.

The children who participated ranged in age from seven to 14 years and were divided into three divisions, with eight teams in all. Questions were on a class of accidents that happen in and about a mine and the results were considered by those who served as judges, as remarkable.

A great portion of the success of the meet is due to Patrick Kane, mine foreman at the Lemont plant. He has had the children under his tutelage for four months. It is considered the training is also of considerable value in the home and school. Previous sessions have been held nightly and the boys and girls who participate have been intensely interested. In addition to being taught how to care for wounds they are able to tell how the injury might happen and what could be done to prevent it. In that manner they are made safety advocates.

In the first division were three teams of girls ranging from 12 to 14 years. The contest there was close. Team No. 1 winning with a percentage of 94½ over Team No. 2, which had 94 per cent. Team No. 3 had 92 per cent.

The personnel of the teams follows:
No. 1—Isabel Sherlock, captain; Margaret Addie, subject; Lena Davis, Isabel Goodwin, Ellen Connors and Katherine Hellas.

No. 2—Helen Mular, captain; Helen

Yarrup, subject; Irene Good, Mary Slamepek, Mary Khapp and Elizabeth Shuba.

No. 3—Mary K. Conner, captain; Carrie Koko, subject; Elizabeth Hall, Evelyn Hellen, Katherine Sherlock and Lida Patterson.

In the second division were two teams, composed of girls ranging from seven to nine years of age. Team No. 5 defeated Team No. 4 in another close contest, 94½ per cent to 94 per cent. The personnel of these teams includes:

No. 5—Zelastine McKittick, captain; Dorothy Patterson, subject; Irma Kelly, Thelma Mills and Evelyn Trainer.

No. 4—Josephine Koko, captain; Irene Davis, subject; Dorothy Connors, Margaret Barabara, Jennie Trainer and Hazel Zebel.

In the third division boys between the ages of 10 and 13 years contested. Team No. 3 was first with 94 per cent. Team No. 6 was second with 93 and No. 7 was third with 91 per cent.

The members of these teams included:

No. 3—Lawrence Doorley, captain; Jack Doorley, subject; Philip Patterson, Joseph Kelly, Frank Doorley and Andrew Doorley.

No. 6—Thomas Kane, captain; Thomas Hall, subject; Frank Parulish, Tony Dombi, Vincent Sherlock, Edward Connors and Raymond Mitta.

No. 7—Paul Harper, captain; Andy Phillips, subject; William Goodwin, Frank Slamepek, William Zebel and Paul Yarrup.

Handsome prizes were given the winning teams and every contestant received an individual prize.

T. L. Doorley is superintendent of the plant. He also acted as recorder for the meet.

The judges were S. S. Hall, mine inspector; J. E. Struble, mine inspector; James Shields, division engineer; Clyde L. Lutton, safety engineer; Bert Bearbower, superintendent at Youngstown plant, and W. G. Duncan, mine extension department of State College.

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LIST OF COKE OVENS IN THE CONNELLSVILLE DISTRICT

With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to
Saturday, December 13, 1924.

Ovens	In Works	Name of Operators	Address
MERCHANT OVENS.			
182	Beatty	Mt. Pleasant Coke Co.	Greensburg
39	Brush Run	Brush Run Coke Co.	Mt. Pleasant
150	Clare	Clare Coke Co.	Greensburg
187	Clarissa	Corrado-Schenck Coke Co.	Connellsville
190	Jim Grove	W. J. Rainey, Inc.	Connellsville
24	Ferguson	Connellsville C. & C. Co.	Connellsville
36	Fort Hill	Corrado Coal Co.	New York
101	Gilmore	Gilmore Coke Co.	Uniontown
145	Grace	Corrado-Schenck Coke Co.	Connellsville
274	Hamphreys	Hamphreys Coal & Coke Co.	Greensburg
319	Mt. Pleasant	Mt. Pleasant Coke Co.	Greensburg
42	Nelle	Shovind Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
58	Nelle	Nelle Coke Co.	Connellsville
323	Oliver No. 1	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburg
329	Oliver No. 2	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburg
390	Oliver No. 3	Oliver & Snyder Steel Co.	Pittsburg
39	Paul	W. J. Rainey, Inc.	New York
35	Peoples	Shovind Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
190	Rivers	W. J. Rainey, Inc.	New York
40	Thomas	Whitel Coke Co.	Uniontown
48	West Penn	West Penn Coke Co.	Pittsburg
3,571	1,150		
FURNACE OVENS.			
280	Adelaide	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
281	Albion	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
282	Baggaby	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
283	Bitter	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
284	Brinkerton	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
285	Calumet	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
286	Central	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
287	Collier	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
288	Continental 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
289	Continental 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
290	Continental 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
291	Continental 4	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
292	Continental 5	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
293	Devon	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
294	Davidson	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
295	Dorothy	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
296	Hecla No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
297	Hecla No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
298	Hecla No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
299	Hecla No. 4	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
300	Hecla No. 5	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
301	Hecla No. 6	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
302	Hecla No. 7	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
303	Hecla No. 8	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
304	Hecla No. 9	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
305	Hecla No. 10	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
306	Hecla No. 11	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
307	Hecla No. 12	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
308	Hecla No. 13	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
309	Hecla No. 14	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
310	Hecla No. 15	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
311	Hecla No. 16	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
312	Hecla No. 17	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
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The Weekly Courier.

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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 18, 1936.

MAKING OURSELVES HEARD.

The persons who suggested holding a meeting of citizens, with a view to reviving interest in the Connellsville-Farmington road, and getting behind a movement to have an additional section placed under contract by early spring, have precisely the right idea.

If the people residing in the section which will derive the largest benefit from this improvement do not themselves display sufficient interest to keep it moving to eventual completion, it is plain that nobody else will. Without manifestation of this interest in such form that the county commissioners and the Department of Highways cannot misunderstand its meaning, there will be little assurance, if any, that there will be no further delay in continuing the improvement.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the communities in which improved roads have been built have made a smaller share of improved roads than other communities in which the need has been no greater than here.

Upon the occasion of the celebration of the opening of the section of the Connellsville-Farmington road from the city line to Sandy Flats, highway officials did not hesitate to say that the rapidly increasing road would be pushed to completion would depend upon the activity of the people affected by the improvement. They were plainly told that only by persistence in their demands for recognition would the department be forced to take action. That method of pressing claims for attention is employed throughout the state and is successful in proportion to the weight and strength with which the pressure is applied.

The northeastern section of Fayette county has been almost wholly ignored in the distribution of highway improvements. The blame rests largely upon the people who have not made themselves heard in the matter of urging recognition of their rights in a more equitable share. In this respect the people of Connellsville have been more at fault than their neighbors of the country districts who have a fuller appreciation of the value of good roads.

The meeting on December 19 ought to provide the opportunity now needed to systematically organize a campaign the object of which will be to keep the claims of this section before the road authorities as persistently and with such an array of facts and arguments that in their self-defense they will have to keep faith with the people.

This object can best be accomplished by every body in the city and in the country to the east and north making it their business to be present at the meeting and joining in such action as will give a new emphasis and irresistible momentum to the movement in behalf of advancing the much needed highway improvement by successive stages to eventual completion.

WHAT CHRISTMAS SEALS REALLY MEAN AND DO.

To persons who have not clearly understood the objects and purposes of the Christmas Seal campaign, and the methods by which the funds thus derived are used, will find much enlightenment in the statement issued by the Woman's Culture Club of Connellsville. At the same time a feeling of admiration will be experienced at the knowledge of what this organization has been doing in a quiet and unobtrusive way to assist in bringing relief to sufferers from tuberculosis.

The main object of the Christmas Seal sale is to provide the funds which are used by the Pennsylvania Tuberculosis Society in combating the ravages of the "white plague" in this state. This activity is in no way related to the Red Cross, being independent in its organization and management.

In Connellsville and vicinity the Culture Club has long served as sponsor of the annual sales of Christmas Seals. In addition to conducting this special campaign through the medium of a special committee the club has performed a long list of highly valuable services in behalf of those who suffer from tuberculosis.

All except 20 per cent of the money raised in this territory is spent here for the direct and immediate benefit of tubercular persons. There is no elaborate staff of office employees to absorb a large sum in salaries. The State Nurse, who supervises the work, is on the payroll of the State Department of Health, making it possible for the maximum amount of money raised to be used for relief, to provide milk for babies, outfit the baby clinics, and the Little Mothers League and similar purposes.

In view of the splendid work being done without attracting public notice, and the reduction of 50 per cent in the death rate from tuberculosis in the last few years, the Christmas Seal Campaign, as conducted by the Woman's Culture Club, is deserving of liberal support by every person in this section. This support can be supplied by the very simple act of purchasing Christmas Seals.

A CHALLENGE TO FRIENDS OF C. H. S. AND D. T. H. S.

Two conspicuous and highly commendable examples of public spiritedness have been furnished this section within the last few days.

In adding approximately two acres to the original area intended to be embraced in the proposed James B. Hogg Park, Mrs. May Reid Hogg has set an entirely new mark in generosity and liberality as these grounds have heretofore been displayed in behalf of the public in the City of Connellsville.

This second gift of Mrs. Hogg will make it possible to more completely adapt James B. Hogg Park as a location for a stadium and other features and accessories of a modern athletic field and recreation center. With such exceptional facilities in the site, as it has been enlarged by the munificence of the donor, Connellsville will have an opportunity to provide for the youth of the future what ought to be the best and most commodious sports and playground center in all Western Pennsylvania and bring to the city a distinction every citizen should be proud to have it enjoy.

Such an achievement will be possible if the work of carrying the project through to completion is not allowed to lag and is given that form and measure of public support and cooperation necessary to that end.

While interest in it may have subsided a trifle since the football season, which became the agency through which the undertaking was carried through the initial stage, the further donation by Mrs. Hogg should now revive that interest and make it so vigorous that not a single Connellsvillian will be content to have the consummation of the plans delayed longer than is necessary to having them worked out.

Of relatively the same importance to Dunbar Township and its high school is the proposal of Thomas Keen to provide the latter with an athletic field. He has been inspired to action in this respect by precisely the same interests and motives as the projectors of the Connellsville stadium have been influenced. In both cases the prime object and purpose is to provide grounds upon which high school sports can be conducted under conditions designed to develop school spirit to its best and afford friends and patrons of the respective institutions an opportunity to play the role of fans with a proper degree of enthusiasm.

In the two examples of a willingness to bring about a realization of the hopes of both Connellsville and Dunbar Township high schools with respect to better athletic fields, Mrs. Hogg and Mr. Keen have given such substantial proof of their loyalty to their home communities that all other citizens should now feel they have been challenged to give just as convincing proof of their fealty, but in somewhat different form.

FIRST AID TO THE CHRISTMAS MAIL MAN.

The work of the postal employees will be lightened and intended recipients of Christmas reminders will be spared disappointment if persons using the mails for the distribution of gifts will bear in mind the simple regulations applying to Christmas mail.

First in importance, perhaps, is to prepare packages in a secure manner by using containers sufficiently strong to resist the handling to which mail matter is subjected and wrapped and tied in such a manner that the packages will not open or fall apart even if one or more cards become broken.

Thus prepared for mailing, the packages should be plainly and legibly addressed, giving correct name and street number of the addressee. The name and address of the sender should also be placed in the upper left-hand corner of the address side of the package, preferably in less conspicuous writing than the address. With the required stamps affixed, and without Christmas stickers or seals of any kind on the address side, the package will be ready for mailing. If deposited in the post office early, and before the Christmas rush attains its height, the sender will be assured that it will reach its destination safely and in time to glad the recipient who heads the injunction, "Do Not Open Until Christmas."

Senders of Christmas mail should also bear in mind that the usual rules about not enclosing writings with presents, other than names of giver on a card, applies at this season as well as throughout the year. To hasten delivery special delivery stamps can be affixed but they do not register or insure the package.

If care is taken to follow these rules all anxiety about the prompt and safe delivery of your gifts will be allayed and incidentally you will not as first aid to all postal employees in the big job they will have on their hands during the ensuing two weeks.

The bill proposing to legalize Sunday baseball in Pennsylvania will have to be coached more skillfully than those introduced at previous sessions, and backed by a big crowd of fans, if it does not strike out in the first inning.

If there be any virtue in James the new leader of the Connellsville Millitary Band should make it an organization capable of giving lively tones to its selections and complete harmony among its membership.

HOME AS STARTING PLACE OF LAW-BREAKERS.

Once in a while, a grand jury makes so unusual or pointed a pronouncement to the court that it commands attention far beyond the boundaries of the community in which the jury is serving.

An instance of this kind recently occurred when the grand jury of Kings county, New York, which embraces the Borough of Brooklyn, New York City, made observations upon the prevalence of crime and criminal tendencies in the youth of Brooklyn. The explanation of this menacing fact was to be found in the homes where the youth had been reared.

The grand jury placed the blame squarely upon parents who had shirked their responsibilities for the spiritual and moral training of their children. Absorbed in business and the pursuit of their own pleasures parents have not known the joys, and their children have been deprived of the great boon of companionship.

Other respects in which parents have been the impelling cause of delinquency on part of their children were set forth by the grand jury as follows:

"Others by their own defiance of law have taught their children defiance of law. Law-breaking homes do not produce law-abiding children. Law-breaking breeds law-breaking."

"An alarming number of children in Brooklyn are growing up with no religious training whatever. A prominent jurist recently declared that in his twenty years on the bench, he could recall but one of the thousands of criminals brought before him who had had a Sunday school training. If this record is to be accepted at its face value, it means that the arch enemies of crime are our religious institutions of whatever creed."

"What are the remedies? We are convinced that the most essential is a revaluation of religious influence in the home. The perfect home is that which trains its sons and daughters not only in body and mind, but also in the spirit. We believe the people of Brooklyn must set for themselves a new standard of fealty and devotion to church and synagogue. Let us not send our children to them, but go with them and show them that we believe the things we want them to learn are worth while."

"Let us see to it that our children shall have learned the Golden Rule rather than the rule of greed. Let us see to it that they have a square deal. Join the children in their amusement seeking, and insist that their conception of life shall not be corrupted by vicious movies and filthy books."

Conditions elsewhere may not be as bad as in Brooklyn but it can safely be said that wherever youthful delinquency has developed parents have themselves been negligent of their duties and indifferent to making the influences of their home helpful in building the right kind of character in their children."

THE PEOPLE WANT A SHORT SESSION.

Throughout the state the wish is becoming father to the thought that the forth-coming session of the General Assembly will be unusually short.

As the public views it there is comparatively little to be done beyond making the necessary provisions for the conduct of the state government during the next biennium, beginning July 1, 1937.

Except in the minds of some ambitious legislators there appears to be no necessity for very many new laws, and least of all for any that will lay new burdens of taxation upon the people of the state. There will, however, be the usual grist of bills dumped into the legislative hopper, the authors of which still adhere to the erroneous notion that they are serving their constituents best by cumbering up the calendar with measures of various kinds and for every conceivable purpose.

The country as a whole has grown sick and tired of the persistence with which Congress and the State Legislatures enact new and often ill-considered and unnecessary laws. Instead of devoting time and attention to dispatching the business of a session, then going home and resuming their activities as private citizens, the members of the various legislative bodies have acquired the habit of spending days and weeks in debate of proposed new laws. Unmindful of the fact that more or less uncertainty prevails in business and industry while state and national legislatures are in session, based on the fear that unwelcome or freak laws may be enacted by legislators to permit the session to persist in prolonging sessions beyond the time required to dispose of routine business.

One plain meaning of the November election was that the people are out of patience with the multiplication of new laws. They are demanding that economy and efficiency in operation be practiced by the legislative bodies as well as by the administrative heads and departments of government. There has been too much waste and lost motion in both. It is time, the public believes, where there must in reality be more business in government and less government in business.

With the country just beginning to take vigorous strides toward a new era of prosperity it ought to be the desire of legislators to encourage that movement by every means in their power. No better encouragement can be given than to make the session of the General Assembly as brief as possible and conspicuous in history for the refusal to clutter up the statute books with a lot of useless new laws.

Whence, the dictionary! proceeds "What's the score?" as the greeting among members of the cross-word puzzle fraternity.

Abe Martin

KEY PRIZE FOR CHRISTMAS

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POSTAL SALARIES INCREASE.

The agreement of President Coolidge to the immediate passage of the postal salary increase bill over his veto, upon condition that means are provided to raise the revenue necessary to meet the increase, does not indicate a change in his views on this proposition.

In his veto of the measure passed at the long session of the present Congress, President Coolidge very clearly stated that he was in sympathy with the objects and purposes of the bill, inasmuch as it contained no provision for financing the increase, and the budget for this year having exhausted available funds, the President had no alternative but to veto the bill if he was to preserve any semblance of consistency in his policy of keeping expenditures within the limits of income.

Now, however, that Congress is in the mood to respond to the general sentiment of the country, which favors an increase in the salaries of postal employees, President Coolidge, according to reports from Washington, has indicated his willingness to have the bill passed over his veto but not without action by Congress which will so enlarge the revenues of the post office department that the salary increase can be provided from that source alone.

Such an increase in postal revenues, as at present proposed, will come from increase in the rates of postage on classes of mail other than letters. These will include second-class matter, such as newspapers and magazines, and third-class matter, which embraces books, circulars and the like. It is probable that the rates on parcel post matter will have to be increased in order to add in adding \$88,000,000 to postal revenue, the estimated amount that will be required to pay the salary increase.

In this, as in all cases of increases in prices and wages, the public will be the ultimate payer. With respect to postal salaries the necessity for an increase is so uniformly recognized that it is not likely much objection will be offered to the raise in the rates of postage except, possibly, by a certain class of publishers. If the patrons of the post office are satisfied the publishers will have to be.

THE "CHRISTMAS KETTLES" AND CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.

In our preparations for Christmas we will find many a man who makes the most of our opportunities. It is we are not large-hearted enough to include in our plans bringing the season's good cheer to others than our own immediate family and friends.

Circumstances always exist which make it impossible for a certain number of persons to share in the joy of Christmas. It is intended to bring good cheer to those who are unable to do so. Many bread winners have not been able to make the usual provisions for the comfort and well-being of their families, much less play Santa Claus, as is the desire of every normal parent at this time of the year.

Fortunately, however, Connellsville has an agency which year after year has shown how efficiently it can fill the role of Santa in families where circumstances will not permit members themselves to serve in that capacity. The Salvation Army, through the medium of the "Christmas Kettles," which are located on the sidewalks in different parts of the city and attended patiently all day by soldiers of the Army, makes it possible for the poor to have a Christmas dinner to families which might otherwise be deprived of this joy. If the fund is sufficient part of it is expended in the purchase of toys for the children in homes to which Christmas dinner baskets are sent.

The degree of liberality of Christmas shoppers in making deposits of money in the kettles is the only limit placed upon the Salvation Army in dispensing its bounty to the needy. The larger the contributions the larger number of families that can be made happy and the larger the baskets and the number of toys for the children and, consequently, the greater the joy in these homes.

This year there is a heavier demand than usual upon the Salvation Army because of the lack of employment in recent months. This fact, ought to move all Christmas shoppers to a desire to so fully do their part that Christmas will not pass without every home and every child in the community sharing in its joy.

Most donors of Christmas reminders can well afford to reduce the number or cost of their gifts to immediate friends to such an extent that they can drop a good contribution into the Christmas Kettle. No gift will bring more genuine satisfaction to the donor or do as much to prove that he or she has the true Christmas spirit.

TAX REDUCTION

Pennsylvania Farmer.

There must be a united demand by the people for a lessened government out-go before we can hope to have any real tax relief. We must deflate the cost of government. In doing so, however, we must be able to distinguish between necessary and unnecessary expenses. There is an increasing need for money to maintain schools and roads; also for the better protection of life and property. It is not economy to stop efforts to suppress crime and disease. But there is a thousand and one line in which money could be saved without loss to the public.

The fans who are keeping close tally on the stadium building clamorously have made note of the fact that "Tom" Kearns is warning up his team in readiness to make the "kick-off" next week. At the same time the "Rotary boys" are grooming themselves to set the pace for the "first string" boosters who will be expected to do the heavy playing.

Christmas Seals on the backs of your letter mail will insure the safe delivery of your true Christmas spirit message.

The World Is Moving to Higher Ground

Manufacturers Record.

On August 6, 1914, the Manufacturers Record, in an editorial discussing the beginning of the war, said that while billions of treasure and millions of lives would be lost, civilization would not be destroyed, but on the wreck and ruin of war humanity would build a higher and a better civilization. We have seen nothing since that time to change the belief then expressed.

The world is in a ferment and turmoil. The diplomatic lying and intriguing and selfishness which have gone on through the centuries are still in evidence, and pre-eminently so in many of the movements that are being made in the League of Nations.

It should not have been expected that out of the horrors of a world war there could be any human possibility come a prompt regeneration of the world. The conditions which are existing in moral and political affairs in this and other countries might have been expected as the inevitable outcome of an inconclusive war, since the World War would only have been conclusive if we had gone on to Berlin and there settled the problems which the world has been facing ever since.

But there is a spirit abroad, revolutionary it may be called in some respects, showing a determination on the part of the common people, who for generations and generations have been suppressed in Europe, to take a more active part not merely in political but in financial affairs than ever before. They are no longer willing to be in the hands of the great houses, or overlords, which for centuries ruled all of central Europe. There is a longing in the heart of hundreds of millions of people in Europe and in Asia to find some way to lift themselves out of the desperate poverty which they have endured through countless ages as compared with the abounding prosperity of the people of the United States.

The condition of the laboring people in this country is incomprehensible to the same classes of people in other parts of the world. Eking out a bare existence as the laborers of Europe and in Asia are doing, they look with envy and admiration alike upon the abounding blessings vouchsafed to American laboring people. They see the laborers of this country enjoying advantages and a degree of comfort which none but the well-to-do or the rich of other lands are ever privileged to have.

We are standing as a beacon light, lifted high for all the world, to stimulate the people of other lands to seek the same advantages of higher wages which we have. A rebirth must come to the world, but it cannot come without much travail and suffering.

THE SOUTH'S DEVELOPMENT.

The 666 pages of reading matter and attractive advertising which comprise the South's Development, issued as part of the regular issue of the Manufacturers Record of Baltimore, form an almost irresistible invitation for the people of the South to take advantage of the country to move, bag and baggage, to the Delectable Land which this publication portrays so vividly and with such fidelity, there to share in the boundless opportunities which are available.

Giving a glimpse of the past which, to many Southern readers will be a revelation of the important part the South has had in the formation of the government and in the development and perpetuation of many of the highest ideals of Americans as a people, the introductory parts of the publication furnish a substantial and convincing background against which to set out clearly and convincingly the facts of the present with respect to what the South is doing in justification of its claim to being "the Nation's Greatest Asset."

The publication will rank as one of the most notable of modern times in that it comprises a more complete compendium of the achievements, resources and commercial and commercial possibilities of a large section of the nation than has ever before been compiled. It is a veritable storehouse of facts about the South, a study of which ought to provide a liberal education for the people of that section who may be deficient in knowledge about their own limitless possibilities for growth. Even more valuable will it be to the people of the North, East and West who have had the vague and erroneous idea that that portion of the United States south of Mason & Dixon's Line is an isolated section, out of touch with and refusing to have co-operation with the region north of this historic boundary.

A reading of this publication will show how vital to the country as a whole is the well balanced development of the South and how rich it is in the things both material and spiritual, which are essential to such a development and a glorious future for the entire country.

In order to the continued firing up of coke ovens at Frick plants Judge Gary of the parent corporation is doing his full part to make his prediction of greater prosperity come true.

It is even more important to remember that there are but two Sundays upon which to attend church before Christmas, than that there are but nine more days upon which to shop after today.

The postal clerks may not get their increase in their Christmas stockings but they will have good reason to believe it will come by special delivery after the holiday rush is over.

There is the prospect of some good sport in watching the race between "Tom" Kearns and the "Rotary Boys" to see which will first be ready to dedicate a stadium.

Every little girl in (innards of the United States Steel Corporation has a meaning of its own in the coke region, best translated in terms of more smoking ovens.

In the long-drawn out balloting at the Hospital Auxiliary Association organization there were a few reminders of the Madison Square Garden pavilion.

Committees Named In Tri-Town Scheme For Fire Protection

W. A. Cosgrove, chairman of the fire protection movement at Vander-

bilt, has selected a committee of three men from each of the three towns interested in the proposed movement.

They are:

Vanderbilt—C. C. Collins, W. J. Reed and S. E. Porter.

East Liberty—Joseph H. Stoner, O. S. Ogilvie and J. F. Black.

to you. Your account subject to
dially invited.

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